(b) whether Government have taken any action on their memorandum; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government have been receiving representations/ memorandum of demands relating to service conditions from various Association of Teachers in including the All India Federation of University and College Teachers' Organisation, Federation of Central Universities Teachers'Association and Delhi University Teachers'Association. The Government have already accepted the major demands of these Associations which, *inter-alia,* include revised Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) for Assistant Librarian/College Librarian, Assistant Director of Physical Education/College Director of Physical Education, enhancement of age of superannuation from 62 to 65 years for teaching positions in Centrally Funded Institutions in Higher and Technical Education and creation of posts of Professors in the UGC recognized Autonomous Colleges. The Government have also initiated action for setting up of the UGC Pay Review Committee following the constitution of the Sixth Central Pay Commission for the Central Government employees.

Infrastructure for utilization of EDUSAT

3357. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made adequate investments in different ground infrastructure for the utilization of India's Educational slellite, EDUSAT;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such infrastrcture is utilized for curriculum based education, teachers' training, enrichment courses for college and professional education and any other similar purposes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the adequacy of the steps taken for the software content generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Ground Infrastructure for utilization of EDUSAT has been largely created by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), which invested Rs. 89.00 crore in the programme till December, 2006.

(c) and (d) University Grants Commission (UGC) , through its body Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC) is utilizing EDUSAT facility for curriculum based education. UGC-CEC uses EDUSAT network for live transmission of their classroom programme which is received by all institutions having Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) or Receive Only Terminals (ROTs). The students attending the session can interact and ask questions to the experts through audio-video conferencing or text mode or through telephone.

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is sponsoring telecasting of programmes through AICTE-EDUSAT network mostly for curriculum based teaching as also for conducting training programmes and seminars. The Council is also engaged in the development of digital course wares.

The infrastructure of EDUSAT is being utilized by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for curriculum based education, teachers' training, professional educational courses and for conducting teleconferencing sessions for software content generation.

NCERT is conducting inter-active orientation/training programmes of teachers and teachers' educators.

Department of Science and Technology (DST) is utilizing EDUSAT network for group discussions, lectures, demonstrations, video-shows, training and capacity building programmes.

Success rate in **IGNOU**

3358. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the enrolment in IGNOU is increasing and the success rate of the students is decreasing year after year; and